Open Space Committee (OSC) Town of Eastham Meeting Minutes Wednesday, January 19, 2022 – Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Joanna Buffington, Saul Fisher, Frances Lewis (Chair), Kait Logan, Peter

Wade, Rob Young

Members Absent: Karen Strauss,

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Robert Young

- 1. Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm
- 2. Approved Minutes of 12-15-21

3. Conservation Fund

Next meeting of CPA is 2/2/22. We have not received any feedback from Groton so it was decided to present as is. It was decided to ask for a meeting with town administration (Paul, Jacqueline, & Rich) to discuss and get suggestions for other means of securing funds for land parcels in a timely manner. This was considered paramount based on current real estate markets. Peter, Joanna, & Karen to represent the committee. It was further suggested that a representative of Housing Trust should be included.

4. Land Management Plans for Priority Parcels

Frances to follow up with Paul on the status of hiring a consultant to complete the plans. It was also suggested that Paul should be invited to attend our next meeting.

5. Open Space and Recreation Plan

It was understood that this same consultant would be doing the Open Space and Recreation Plans as well.

6. Sandy Meadow

It was decided to move forward with the CPA funds allocated for 2020 to be utilized for the signage and brochure for Sandy Meadows. It was further set out that Bob Cook, Karen, and Rob would work on what information should be included. The concept is to install a kiosk like those at Wiley Park explaining the uniqueness of this property (Sandy Plains Grass and habitat).

Also discussed was to check with Chuck to see where we are on his 5-step plan for the property care.

Rob and Frances have also been in touch with Silvio of the DPW to install a dog waste station.

7. Higgins Property

Still awaiting Entrance sign for the property. Frances to follow up with Paul as it was stated that Administration Funds were allocated.

8. Annual Report

Completed

9. 100 Cole Rd

Joanna explained about a 1 acre parcel on Cole Road that ECF is in the process of purchasing. The property is a key element in the ecosphere of this area. Both containing the Herring Run and Turtle habitat among other species and plants. The agreed upon price is \$350k. Currently the ECF has raised \$50k. The state will give a tax credit of \$75k. This leaves a balance needed of \$225k. It was proposed that we request from the CPA fund 2023 monies to help purchase said property. Joanna volunteered to work on this requested and it was unanimously agreed to proceed.

10. Bee Hive Property

Joanna made the committee aware that both parcels were now listed at \$999k and that this listing indicated the potential build of a 5-bedroom home. One parcel is wetlands leaving not enough land to build said house. Kait and Rob both agreed that this was a potentially misleading listing. We will wait and see.

11. New Business

Rob will research online listings of hiking trails in Eastham and try to correct and/or add those that are listed or missing.

12. Next Meeting Date: 2-16-22